

September 30, 1950.

Dr. C. B. van Niel,  
Hopkins Marine Station,  
Pacific Grove, Calif.

Dear Dr. van Niel:

Herewith, I am returning the reprints of Pijper's papers on diffraction of bacterial cultures. Thank you very much for calling them to my attention. I can't say that I am strongly convinced by his argument that bacteria are standing on end. It should be no difficult task with a phase microscope to check this directly.

Miss Lively mentioned that the recombination experiment worked satisfactorily. I should be pleased to hear your comments or suggestions as to how it might best be adapted for pedagogic purposes.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,  
Associate Professor of Genetics